

## THE WEEK

Well, well, the world must turn upon its axis,  
And all mankind turn with it, heads or tails.  
—Byron, Don Juan.

## Peace

THE World in Panorama reveals strange disorders. The days when there was babel in Babylon, when the world was a confusion of tongues, when Paris fought in the blood-and-thunder interval in which the brief lives have been caught. One "crowded hour" brings us a Chinese war of attrition, a Japanese lust for Asiatic domination, throws Brazil into alignment with the Allies of Europe, exiles a Russian drive in Galicia, and the marching of American armies in Paris, and gives us enough Socialist parade and race riots for a mess.

Our own continent appears comparatively quiescent, though constitutions are being uprooted and men yesterday unknown are to-day issuing ukases from Washington and Ottawa. Food Dictator Hoover has joined hands with Canada's food censor, W. J. Hanna, but beyond some hardy utterances and various orders which have not all been obeyed food rationing and food selling and food consuming are following their accustomed course. Prodigious debating is going on in the Capitol, though, outside of "The Congressional Record," little is printed concerning these gas effusions, against which Uncle Sam wears a mask. Food bills, taxation bills and appropriation bills are still on the fire, while Washington swelters in the heat. The only persons who seem to be paying any attention to Congress are the semi-militant woman suffragists who got themselves into jail for their pains.

East St. Louis flared up on the map with its ugly social eruption. Negro workmen were invited to the Northern plants by employers who seek the cheapest labor. The white workmen resented this colored invasion. As if to rebuke the melliorists who talk of "the democracy of the world," the white people of East St. Louis, passively aided, it is said, by even the State Militia, killed twenty-nine negroes, including women and children, and burned 400 negro homes. No particular outburst of resentment against this Northern violence manifested itself in the Northern press, but the Southern press is quick to capitalize it and to impress it upon the thinking negro.

Aliens in the United States enjoy immunity from draft, and immunity also from the censorship, likewise from injunctions against giving aid and comfort to the enemy, judging from the extreme government laxity toward them as noted by the press. Germans carry on a merchant marine insurance on a large scale and avail themselves of important shipping information, which information there is nothing to prevent them from dispatching in cipher to Germany by relaying to South America and Switzerland.

The thrilling attack of German submarines upon the Pershing expedition in mid-ocean and again near the French coast reveals the accurate work of such German spies in New York. Secretary Daniels blessed his stars that he was able to announce the miraculous safe arrival of our troops in France. To the thrill of danger at sea, of American gunnery in action and of safe landing has been added the thrill of an American parade in Paris. Consider the chagrin of Hindenburg at this safe landing. For he has just assigned the Germans that the submarine would win the war "before the Americans could arrive," trusting the while to the spies and to the submarines to waylay every American troop ship so that the American soldiers would "arrive" at the bottom of the sea.

To the East we witness a titanic upheaval, still in the tremor stage. Chinese reactionaries have restored the "infant

in the "open door" when Japan puts it back upon its ancient latch.

Turn we dizzily southward and there Brazil is discovered in the act of "renouncing her neutrality and taking a position short of war" in sympathy with the United States. Strong pressure is being brought to bear upon the Argentine to do likewise. The same kind of embargo pressure is being brought to bear upon Holland and the European neutrals who need our surplus of food and raw materials. Sweden has retaliated by withholding her millions of feet of wood-pulp, an action calculated to bite the American press.

July is a blood red month in history. July 4 is the red letter day on our calendar. July 14 is France's patriotic day, Canada celebrates July 1. Brazil and other nations won their independence on July days. And now Russia celebrates with a deeper red. Kerensky has christened his fighting battalions the "July 1 Regiments" and presented them with red revolutionary flags, at which good people blink their eyes.

### Tinkering with Business

BIG BUSINESS is as perplexed, as uncertain and as helpless as a pacifist family with six sons of draft age! The splendid era of business, when Congresses were as toys in the hands of the magnates and every factor in American life paid homage to commerce and finance, has given place to the era of the feudal armorer again.

Yesterday the coal barons were whipped and sent to bed by strange new lords at Washington, to-day the once so dominant railroads, whose charge was wont to be "all that the traffic will bear," are told that they cannot raise their rates to save their souls, and to-morrow the proud manufacturers will be told that they cannot get steel to make a flytrap, a spade or an automobile.

One would infer from the lordly gestures of Congress and the inner Cabinet and the outer Cabinet that indeed all was over for coal interest, steel interest and railroad interest; that the great Chicago packers were as docile as contented cows; that the automobile manufacturers were resigned to die nobly in their steel-starved plants, and that the whole country was captivated by the sound of many dictatorial voices from Washington.

But as a matter of fact one cannot announce the enforcement of these radical measures. One cannot announce a cheap coal contract. One cannot even predicate the cessation of automobile manufacture through the dearth of steel. Beer and skittles are still enjoyed.

With bated breath 100,000,000 people



gaze at Washington. And they bear a family row between Secretaries Baker and Lane, radical and conservative, on an issue of coal prices. "Brave lads," Secretary of the Interior Lane told the coal barons who agreed upon \$3 a ton at the mines for bituminous coal for the government, "this is indeed patriotism!" "It is extortion!" vociferated Secretary of War Baker next day. "I said patriotism!" said Lane, raising his voice. "And I said extortion!" retorted Baker, pleasantly. President Wilson, leaning toward Baker, has calmed the difference for the moment. Whether it is wiser to haggle over prices and not get the goods than it is to pay fair prices and proceed to war is the point of dispute. The coal barons are of the latter opinion. The New York Central gets coal for \$2 a ton.

Food control and prohibition wrangling have delayed the taxation programme. Some of the Senators favor a graduated impost on excess profits ranging from 12 to 35 per cent. Other Senators favor raising most of the war expenses by bond issues, so that interest may relieve some of the distress of wealth. Congressman Rainey, pleading that \$1,500,000,000 should be raised by taxation, calls the Senate bill a "rich man's bill."

Senator Reed, of Missouri, charges that certain members of the national boards favor themselves in war contracts, notably the Aluminum Company of America, of which Arthur B. Davis is the head, while he serves as chairman of the sub-committee which buys aluminum for the government. In such case Mr. Davis's company would have to be excepted from comments upon "uncertainties of business" and the "surrender of big business."

Another Federal "economy" is advertised in the price secured for the copper supply. Some unkind critics point out that the copper producers have recouped themselves for their patriotic sacrifice by advancing the price of copper proportionately to individual consumers. Steel, however, is the dominant item. Will the in-



—De Nieuwe Amsterdammer, Amsterdam

ustrial manufacturers for peace markets be able to get steel? If not, building trades will suffer, real estate will receive a setback, the automobile industry will be flat on its back and, in common opinion, the devil will be to pay. "Business as usual" without steel may be rather rickety.

The railroad gloom has not been dispelled. The Interstate Commerce Commission's decision denying the plea for a 15 per cent horizontal raise in rates and throwing a sop of 4 per cent to the Eastern lines left the railroad interests disgruntled, and railroad stocks slumped materially. In fact, pessimism is just now the adopted mood of the rails, though they at least are assured a continuance of business. Shifting from a peace basis to a war basis must be an easy acrobatic feat for a railroad compared with a manufacturer of baby carriages or hearses.

### The Kitchen Crop

FOOD for humanity is still the passionate quest. Some reassure us that the world's food supply will be ample unless drouth befalls; others will not be consoled by the knowledge that the race has fed itself without "one Hoover" for many generations.

Some strive to conserve the food produced so that the hungry maw of Europe be filled; others think to double the visible supply by doubling the price and still others to increase the supply by cutting the price.

New York is having a taste of food

regulation, the regulating being done by the milk companies, which have boosted the price now that pasturage is plentiful, the increase in two months amounting to 30 per cent. No dealer was obliged to tell his customers that milk was not available, so presumably the cows were turned into "war babies" gratuitously. The farmers get an average price of 4½ cents per quart, while the companies get an average price of 11½ cents. Who is the profiteer?

This challenge from the Borden and Sheffield companies has not been accepted by the nation. Neither has any food challenge. When the food stringency becomes so extreme that rationing will have to be resorted to in order to prevent waste, some people that now have no milk expect to get milk, which will show some of the merits of famine.

Some such issue has been raised by the leading suffragists, among them Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers, their National treasurer. She defends the housewife against the charge of waste and hurls back at Mr. Hoover his demand for food conservation in the kitchen, informing him that waste lies in the distribution, because "only 20 per cent of the crop reaches the kitchen." Other suffragists decried the idea that the housewives are in a position to save food from waste, because many of the families are now insufficiently nourished, while cooking corn or other cereals in the home is "impossible because of the cost of gas and the loss of time to the working wife."

The "buck is then passed" to the homes of the well-to-do, "who have no intention

of saving food," and to the restaurants, of which New York has 7,000, employing 500,000 persons, and doing an annual business of \$1,000,000,000. From the garbage cans of a sixty-family apartment Dr. Lucius P. Brown, director of foods under the Department of Health, rescued ten loaves of bread, five pounds of meat, three pounds of cake and one pound of cereal, possibly on a slack day.

Some controversialists avow that the placing of society upon bread tickets and the distribution of meat rations would afford thousands of the poor more and richer food than their stomachs could stand. Nothing on the political horizon indicates that such people need stand in any fear of such a fate, though President Wilson is determined upon price regulation for wheat and coal and possibly other commodities in the large.

The largest reason for the prevailing high price of meat is the placing of an initial order for 397,638,240 pounds of beef for the army by the Quartermaster General's office. Other items are 29,000,000 pounds of coffee, 480,000,000 pounds of potatoes, 300,000,000 pounds of flour and 7,300,000 pounds of butter. The men who will eat this food are drawn in large part from food producing industries, nor are the cantonments likely to yield much from the planting.

Prohibition is but another phase of the food question as placed before Congress. President Wilson had just got through being characterized by the National women suffragists as "the one great obstacle to

equal suffrage" when the prohibitionists began to describe him as "the one great obstacle to prohibition."

For the President did not like the role of liquor dictator, which the Senate bill originally framed for him, so he "dictated" a new course for Congress—lifting the ban off beer. He does not hesitate to assume the responsibility of telling those Senators "who have been kind enough to consult him" that it would be "in the public interest to eliminate those provisions from the present measure." Which rebuke was probably earned by those who tacked absolute prohibition as a rider on an emergency food bill instead of presenting bready legislation on its merits as a separate issue.

### Raising the Human Crop

"FOOD for cannon," as Bismarck lovingly characterized the human crop for war, is about to be inventoried and sorted with a will, most of the exemption boards having been named, the rigid rules of the draft having been announced by the President, and an appreciable advance having been made in the mobilization of American manhood for shipment to Europe, there to relieve the human crop shortage.

The tremendous political advantage to be gained through exemption boards with power of life and death over the voters is illustrated by the outcry from Pennsylvania against "political tricks in exemption board appointments." A. Mitchell Palmer bewails the capture of these life boards, not by Germans, but by Republicans, whom one Harrisburg newspaper refers to as "politicians of the most despicable type," and whom Vance McCormick, the Democratic National chairman, censuring Governor Brumbaugh, represents as exempting all faithful party followers because they have "floating kidneys."

The conscript army will not be an unwilling army if President Wilson can help it, for in his recent announcement of draft regulations he appeals for fairness, lest those who desire to give their lives be sidetracked through favoritism in the draft.

Draft rules that expressly exempt certain classes have been made public. Congressmen and ministers of religion are discriminated against at the outset, even students in theological seminaries being obliged to confine their part in the great war to summer courses in war oratory.

The jealous care of the government that none but the mentally and morally fit be eligible to fight for democracy is shown in the exclusion from this privilege of "any person who has been convicted of felony and sentenced." Aliens who have not taken out their first papers are to be placed in the same class with ministers, Congressmen and felons. Likewise Germans, whether they have their first papers or not. To confer the boon upon aliens who have taken out their first papers a Federal statute is thought to be necessary, and one may be forthcoming.

Religious scruples against killing count against the citizen where he is "a member of a well recognized religious sect." The sect that is not very well recognized is favored by eligibility, while the "conscientious objector" who is the property of



no sect may also "will to fight" by being drafted.

Married men who have homes, with a wife or child dependent upon them, are not to be given the privilege of fighting in defence of home, wife or child in the conscript army. The favored class is the strong, the free and the young, who will stand in France, as General Pershing described the first contingent as standing, "physically fit and inspiring, fine, husky young fellows, with the glow of energy, good health and physical vigor" on their way to the trenches, in contrast with the pitiful French cripples whom he visited.

The exemption boards will pass upon the indispensability of the workers to industry at home. The burden of proving that he is indispensable at home and therefore ineligible for the high privilege is curiously placed upon the drafted man. "An affidavit from a man's employer" is expected to suffice, thus making the employer the captain of a man's soul. No affidavit from the employer has yet been suggested. The debate as to what is "necessary labor" has now opened, bond salesmen having so far proved the least dispensable.

Senator Calder's bill to have the draft based upon a state's eligibles, and not upon population, is aimed to relieve states that have large alien populations. Alabama, with 1 per cent of alien population, will otherwise send a disproportionately small number of men, compared with New York, Massachusetts and Arizona, with some 30 per cent of alien population. The strength of the Anglo-Saxon South in Congress almost assures the defeat of such an equalizing measure.

State life insurance for conscripted and enlisted soldiers is proposed by Secretary McAdoo, who hopes thus to protect the families of the fighting forces. If the state does not shoulder the burden alone, then it will "cooperate" with the life insurance companies which have already

manifested their patriotism by safeguarding their civil policyholders against war risks on soldiers. This Broddingnagian stride toward state socialism will cover the military army, but the suppression of all attempts to furnish the industrial army with either life or employment insurance may safeguard the nation against a complete state socialism.

Meanwhile the men-at-arms are not slow to test their mettle in useful service at home. At East St. Louis the state militia helped to "make the world safe for democracy" by patrolling during the race riots. At Bayonne the bayonets of the state militia bristled inside the fences of the International Nickel Company's stockade, ready to suppress the two thousand striking workmen who might offer violence in their demands for 15 per cent higher wages. At Boston enlisted men made short work of a socialist-pacifist parade which flung on its banners the legend, "The United States Has Ordered 200,000 Coffins," and after a riotous hour the soldiers in uniform compelled the paraders to kneel and kiss the flag for democracy's sake.

Canada, our nearest ally, imitates us in our popular conscription programme, though not without halting and difficulty. It is not so easy to be democratic in Canada. There are not only the French, but also the Scotch Canadians. The French-speaking Canadians feel that conscription is aimed at them. Men like Henri Bourassa, Armande Lavergne and L. P. Gauthier talk treason and hint civil war. But the opposition to conscription cannot be appraised in terms of French Quebec alone. The Hon. Sidney Fisher, former Minister of Agriculture, falls foul of "those who say that conscription would be defeated in a referendum, and yet who oppose a referendum and call themselves democratic." Fisher contends that "a large majority of the farmers of Ontario are opposed to conscription" by a parliament which sits illegally.

Our neighbors are thus seen to be having a less easy time with war democracy and drafts than we are having.

Quebec, however, is much more resigned, because she has no notion of accepting conscription. "Passive resistance" is the thing. As Jean Baptiste is represented as saying: "Put the French-speaking Canadian in jail! Very well; there are 400,000 of him!"

### The Slav Peril

KERENSKY, the impassioned figure who leads free Russia to who knows what goal, is neither a ruthless Attila from the Ural plains nor an embittered Mirabeau from the schools of Moscow, nor yet a conquering Napoleon from Kronstadt. New world revolutions give birth to new and composite types of leaders who wield new terrors, if not to the lowly, then to those in high places.

The "Slav peril," of which the Germans craftily warned us, has put off the spurs of autocracy and put on the boots of the peasantry, and there are those who believe that with these boots it may be bent upon the destruction of existing forms of government in Europe from Petrograd to Madrid. Is Socialism, then, the new "scourge of God"?

From London and Copenhagen come warnings that the Germans are not ripe for democracy, that the Wilson appeal for peace through internal German reforms has been ill received and that German Socialists have little in common with the Russian or the American and English Socialists. When the faithful "Tageblatt" blatts feebly about the, well, rather too conservative Chancellor, the sign of democracy is insufficient.

But while most of these things are as opaque as mud, the glorious Russian drive is as clear as daylight. This much even business intelligence understands. Kerensky and his horde of idealists are bent upon striking down the exterior foe. And how freed men do fight! Under Nicholas they fought like dumb, driven cattle. Under Kerensky their freedom strikes terror to the foe.

Leading 300,000 men to victory in East Galicia, Kerensky gave the war a thrill. In the towns of Konichy and Brzezany he captured first 10,000 and later 6,000 Austrians and Germans. And General Hugh L. Scott was privileged to be an eyewitness.



Such was the "armistice" sought by Germany, such the "truce with the Bear." Though this serves its dramatic purpose, the total effect may be overestimated, for Russia is not thought by London military experts to be equipped for a general offensive.

Meanwhile the simple Russian Socialists have made Dr. Karl Liebknecht, the German Socialists' repudiated leader, and Dr. Friedrich Adler, the Austrian Socialists' repudiated leader, honorary members of the Russian Congress. These gentlemen are in dungeons in their respective countries, and there the Austro-German Socialists are said to be content that they should remain.

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1917 UNCLE SAM NEED A GAS MASK?

emperor," Hsuan Tung, aged eleven years, and have made this poor child say that he is bent on "reforming the nation to which the republic had brought such disorder." President Li Yuan Hung is said to have suspended, and in dire punishment the emperor has commanded that he be made "a duke of the first class." Others say the president is in jail. Southern China, wedded to republicanism, will not acquiesce. The Northern Manchu pig-tail fights the Cantonese. England is repudiated for having helped destroy the republic for larger world policies. Japan is accused of having stimulated disorder. Civil war in China, with Japan as the invader, is thus almost assured. Meanwhile Uncle Sam may get his feet pinched